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NANTWICH URBAN DISTRICT

1959

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



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NANTWICH URBAN DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

upon the

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

... of the

URBAN DISTRICT OF NANTWICH

for the Year 1959.

R. KENNETH HAY, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

E. W. BUSHELL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.,

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Health Department,
Brookfield House,
NANTWICH.

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Health Department,
Brookfield House,
NANTWICH.

August, 1960.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Nantwich Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Urban District for the year 1959.

From the local statistics it will be noted that the estimated mid-year population of 10,070 shows an increase on the previous year.

The death rate shows a decrease when compared with the previous year whilst the birth rate has increased. Having a hospital in the area with accommodation for chronic and aged persons admitted from other districts, the death rate may tend to be higher than one would expect in the district.

Apart from a minor epidemic of Measles, there was no undue incidence of Infectious Diseases notified during the year. We were again free from Diphtheria but although this has been so for the past twelve years, parents are still strongly urged to have their children immunised against Diphtheria and also to avail themselves of the vaccination at present available against Poliomyelitis. National statistics show that a great measure of protection can be effected by such vaccination.

A matter which I feel calls for special comment is Housing and in particular, the slow progress which we have been able to achieve in dealing with substandard property. In the five year programme submitted to the Minister in 1955, there were included 137 properties recommended for closure or demolition. Reasonable progress was maintained towards the target in the initial stages, but the provision of alternative accommodation to cater for families living in substandard houses appears to have been overshadowed by the development of schemes for the building of houses by the Council for sale. Such schemes are most laudible but these do little to eliminate the long standing problem of unsatisfactory housing conditions which exist in so many of our older properties. I must report that less than 50% of the scheduled properties have so far been dealt with and we must view with some concern the ever decreasing amount of suitable building land available within the Urban area. Basically, the problem resolves itself to a realisation of the fact that until alternative housing accommodation is made available, little progress can be made with the considerable number of substandard properties.

I wish to thank my colleagues in other departments for their help throughout the year, in particular would I acknowledge the assistance by your Chief Public Health Inspector and his help in the preparation of this report.

I am

Yours faithfully,


Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 1,173 acres. Estimated population at mid-1959: 10,070.
 Number of inhabited houses (end of 1959) according to rate book: 3,413.
 Rateable Value (1959/60): £114,124. Rates (1959/60) 20/-d. in the pound.
 Sum represented by penny rate (1959/60) £4.87.

Nantwich is an ancient town situated in the south-west corner of Cheshire and is a market town for a large and important agricultural area. The River Weaver and the Shropshire Union Canal pass through the district and in parts both form the boundary of the Urban Area.

Industrial enterprise exists mainly in the form of clothing manufacture, agricultural machinery and a tannery. There is scope for the establishment of light industries, road and rail communications being very convenient; by rail the town is served by the main lines from Crewe to Shrewsbury and Wellington and good roads radiate from the town to all parts of Cheshire, Shropshire, the Potteries and North Wales.

Vital Statistics.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate... ..	79	69	148
Illegitimate... ..	4	3	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	83	72	155
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population... .. 15.23

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births... .. 4.51%

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate... ..	1	1	2
Illegitimate... ..	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births... .. 12.73

Total Live and Still Births... .. 157

<u>Infant Deaths (under 1 year).</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate... ..	1	-	1
Illegitimate... ..	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	2	-	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births...	12.9
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births...	6.75
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births...	142.85

Neo Natal Mortality Rate (under 4 weeks).

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 Total Live Births... NIL

Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate (under 1 week).

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Total Live Births... NIL

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths ... 12.73

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion).

Number of Deaths... NIL
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths... NIL

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
TOTAL (including inward transfers) ...	72	62	134

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population... 11.84

Deaths from:-

Puerperal sepsis...	-	(-)
Other Puerperal causes ...	-	(-)
Cancer (all ages) ...	22	(27)
Measles...	-	(-)
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	-	(-)
Respiratory tuberculosis (all ages)...	2	(-)

The figures in parentheses refer to the previous year.

The extent of unemployment in the district during the year was negligible.

SECTION B.General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Health Department,
Nantwich Urban District Council,
Brookfield House, Nantwich. Telephone No. Nantwich 65594/5.

4.

County Divisional Medical Officer's Department,
21, Pillory Street, Nantwich. Telephone No. Nantwich 65256.

1. + Medical Officer of Health. + R. Kenneth Hay, M.D., D.P.H.
- Chief Public Health Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector. E. W. Bushell, M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.
- Additional Public Health Inspector. J. P. Moulton, M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.
- Clerical and General Assistant. Mrs. B. Farrington.
- Engineer and Surveyor. E. H. Bailey, F.R.I.C.S.,
M.I.Mun. E., Dip.T.P.(Man)., A.M.T.P.I.
- + Jointly appointed as County Divisional Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health to Nantwich Urban and Rural District Councils.

2. (a) Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological specimens are submitted to :-

- (i) Public Health Laboratories at Manchester and Birkenhead.
- (ii) Chester Royal Infirmary and City Hospital.

Water samples for chemical examination are sent to the County Analyst, Chester.

Milk and ice-cream for bacteriological and biological examination are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Birkenhead and Chester City Hospital.

The Public Health Laboratory Service directed by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health can meet all needs for bacteriological investigation; it is not always practicable, however, because of the distances involved, to make use of the laboratories at Manchester and Birkenhead.

Although the laboratory at the Chester City Hospital accepts samples of milk and Ice Cream for analysis, this also involves much travelling. The arrangement introduced with the Group Laboratory of the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee for accepting for bacteriological investigation, specimens other than milk and ice cream, continues, and the service given is much appreciated.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

The County Council undertakes this service through the Divisional Health Committee. There were two ambulances and three sitting case vehicles at Nantwich on a 24 hour on call basis to meet the needs of accidents, emergencies and infectious disease cases in the Division.

During the year there was again an increase in the number of patients carried and the number of journeys performed. This has been accompanied by an increase in mileage. The service carried 11,556 patients to and from hospital. The total mileage covered was 110,196. This compares with 11,399 patients and 108,988 miles in 1958.

The following is a summary of work done by these vehicles in the Division.

	Journeys		Patients Carried		Mileage		Accidents and Emergencies	
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Ambulances	1478	1516	5499	5228	45587	44594	428	345
Clinic Type Ambulances	1312	1363	6124	6171	63638	64394	-	-
Supplementary	72	66	197	157	1858	1203	-	-
TOTAL	2862	2945	11820	11556	111083	110196	428	345

Cases carried during 1959.

Type of Case	Number		Type of Case	Number	
	1959	1958		1959	1958
Accidents	338	256	Maternity	153	172
Analgesia Apparatus	-	-	Maternity(Emergency)	16	9
Acute Illness	74	80	Out-Patients	591	2324
Ante-Natal Clinics	69	36	" " (Orthopaedic)	2838	2294
General Illness	524	561	" " (Physiotherapy)	2485	3463
Hospital Discharges	355	374	Infectious Diseases	3	11
Inter-Hospital Transfers	325	290	Tuberculosis	21	45
Mental Illness	338	237	Out-Patients T.B.	164	181
Miscellaneous	1039	897	" " (X-Ray)	298	-
Clinic Attendances	2170	-	Radium	19	-

(c) Nursing in the Home.

Valuable services are still being given by the three nurse midwives resident within the Urban District, their work being supplemented by two Health Visitors. These provisions together with the Domestic Help Service provided by the County Council enable us to provide a standard of domiciliary care without which many aged and infirm would have to be cared for in hospital.

6.

(d) Consultation and Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The Clinic Centre at The Dowery, Barker Street, controlled by the Cheshire County Council, is administered by the Divisional Health Committee and a full range of Local Authority services are provided.

The Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic is held at the Crewe Memorial Hospital.

The Paediatric Clinic is held at the Stalbridge Road and Ludford Street School Clinics, Crewe.

The Orthopaedic Clinic functions in conjunction with the Orthopaedic Out-patients Department of the Oswestry Hospital and is held at the L.M.S. Rooms, Nantwich Road, Crewe.

The Venereal Diseases Clinic at Herdman Street, Crewe is administered by the County Council and serves an area including this Urban District.

(e) Hospitals.

The extension to and the modernisation of the Barony Hospital during the past two years have been much appreciated by the residents of the town; the hospital renders a most valuable service and is being upgraded to general hospital status. There are beds for over 400 patients.

The Cottage Hospital, a small modern and efficient institution, has beds for twenty patients.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases are accepted at the Crewe Isolation Hospital which has met all needs during the year.

In addition to the maternity wards at the Barony Hospital, the Maternity Hospital at The Cliffe, Wybunbury is available to patients in the district.

Alvaston Hospital continues to be used as a continuation annexe for the Crewe Memorial Hospital.

(f) Mortuary.

The arrangements with the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee for the use of the Mortuary at the Barony Hospital have worked satisfactorily and continue to meet the needs of the district.

SECTION C.

1. (a) Water Supply.

Water is supplied by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board on which the Council is represented. In September 1959, the River Dee Scheme came into operation; this was the culmination of wise planning and many years work. The source of supply is the River Dee at Llangollen from which water is pumped into the Llangollen canal along which it gravitates to the purification works at Hurleston. From this point, branch mains distribute the water to service reservoirs in the area served by the Board. The original

Nantwich Baddiley supply has now been discontinued. The output from the Hurleston works averages approximately 4,000,000 gallons per day which is more than sufficient to meet the needs of the district. It is interesting to note that during the prolonged drought of 1959, this was one of the few districts in which no water restrictions were necessary and the Board were able to augment the supplies of our less fortunate neighbours. This scheme reflects the highest credit upon the Board and it's Officers. The quality of the water, as delivered to the consumer is satisfactory as shown by the results of chemical and bacteriological examinations which were made at frequent intervals.

The following is a summary of results of samples submitted by the Water Board for bacteriological and chemical examination during the year, and for which copies of reports have been received.

No. of Samples taken	Source	Bacillus coli per 100c.c.			Faecal bacillus per 100c.c.		
		Absent.	Present.	Range.	Absent.	Present.	Range.
19	Bearstone-Raw	9	10	1-50	16	3	3-5
8	Eaton-Consumers Taps	8	-	-	8	-	-
18	Eaton-Raw	18	-	-	18	-	-
1	Woore Ash Reservoir	1	-	-	1	-	-
3	Hurleston-Consumers Taps	3	-	-	3	-	-
49	Total	39	10	1-50	46	3	3-5

(b) Sewage Disposal.

The Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information.

The Sewage Disposal Works at Windy Arbour are modern and consist of sedimentation tanks, filters, humus tanks and sludge drying beds. The effluent is discharged into the River Weaver.

All Sewage is pumped to the works from Beam Bridge Pumping Station. The Storm water is dealt with at Beam Bridge Pumping Station where the storm water tanks deal with all flows above 3 d.w.f. and discharges to the River Weaver.

2. Rivers and Streams Pollution.

Responsibility for this work was transferred to the Cheshire Rivers Board as from 1st October, 1951.

8.

3. (a) Closet Accommodation.

All premises in the district are served by water closets with the exception of those of which the Public Health Inspector gives details in his report under the heading "Pail Closets".

(b) Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of house refuse and trade refuse is controlled by the Surveyor, as is also street cleansing. Towards the end of the year arrangements were made with the Rural District Council to empty the few remaining pail closets dealt with by the local authority at an agreed cost.

(c) Public Baths.

The Open Air Brine Swimming Pool, owned and controlled by the Council, is open from May to September each year. The pool is 100 feet by 50 feet and is supplied with brine from the Council's brine well at the rear of the Old Town Hall. About 9 ounces of brine is added per gallon of water. The pool is not heated but the water is filtered and sterilised by the "Break-point" chlorination process and fed to the pool through a cascade. Mixed bathing is allowed and dressing boxes for both sexes are provided. Cafe facilities are available. A sample of water was taken during the season with satisfactory results.

(d) Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

(e) Shops and Offices.

(f) Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites.

(g) Eradication of Bugs.

(h) Smoke Abatement.

These matters are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector in his report.

(i) Shell Fish.

There are no shell fish beds or layings in the district.

SECTION D.

Inspection and Supervision of Food, Milk Supply, Meat and Other Foods.

These matters are fully covered in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

SECTION E.1. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received during the year.

Disease	Age Groups									Total
	under 1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45+	
Scarlet Fever	-	3	2	4	1	-	-	-	-	10
Whooping Cough	3	7	10	15	-	-	-	-	-	35
Measles	8	36	33	80	1	1	-	-	-	159
Meningococcal Inf.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	7
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	2	7
TOTALS	12	46	45	99	4	6	3	3	2	220

The following is a summary of cases notified in the past ten years.

Disease	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever	5	18	32	24	16	1	3	21	19	10
Whooping Cough	2	2	86	8	3	17	67	9	-	35
Diphtheria	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	5	102	107	49	83	104	3	246	19	159
Poliomyelitis	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	4	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	8	7	6	13	4	7	7
Pemphigus Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Paratyphoid B.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	4	-	1	20	-	-

Immunisation and Vaccination.

Year of Immunisation and Vaccination	Immunisation		Vaccination	
	Primary	Re-Immunisation	Primary	Re-Vaccination
1950	23	426	63	6
1951	86	19	49	12
1952	78	54	43	14
1953	53	109	64	6
1954	82	137	55	7
1955	69	52	40	5
1956	36	14	56	6
1957	111	18	43	8
1958	61	48	78	13
1959	91	183	55	13

The responsibility for the provision and facilities for immunisation and vaccination rests with the Local Health Authority which in this County has delegated the responsibility to the Divisional Health Committee.

Throughout the year a vigorous campaign has been maintained in clinics and schools and in the homes to stress the importance of having children both immunised and vaccinated.

There are now in being specially arranged sessions for school children whose parents wish them to be immunised or re-immunised. These sessions are carried out in the schools by the General Practitioners in the town and so far the response has been excellent. I should like to thank the Doctors and the Head Teachers without whose co-operation the running of these sessions would not be possible.

The above table is a summary of the work carried out under this heading for the past ten years.

It should be pointed out however, that this table is compiled from returns received from the General Practitioners and does not give an accurate picture of the true position, for it is found on information supplied by parents that approximately 80% of school entrants have at some period during their pre-school life received primary immunisation against diphtheria.

I should like once again to stress the importance of having every child both immunised and vaccinated.

The scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis continued and was extended to limited age groups other than school children.

B. C. G. Vaccination.

The scheme for vaccination against Tuberculosis (B.C.G.) was extended in 1954 to include children between thirteen and fourteen years of age. All Secondary Modern and Grammar Schools are visited annually for this purpose and the response is on the whole very good.

2. (a) Prevention of Blindness.

There was no special action by the Local Authority during the year.

(b) Tuberculosis.

No action was necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 - tuberculosis persons in milk trade - or section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 - compulsory removal to sanatorium.

After the death of a patient or removal to sanatorium, all bedding, rooms, etc. are disinfected by fumigation with formaldehyde.

Primary notifications of new cases and mortality during 1959.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	1	1	-	2	-	-	-

The following statistics supplied by the County Divisional Health Office show the state of register for the Urban Area.

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cases on register at 1st January, 1959.	29	22	3	5	32	27
Cases notified during the year.(Including Inward Transfers.)	4	3	1	-	5	3
Cases removed during the year - died and removed from district, etc.	5	3	-	-	5	3
Cases on register at 31st December, 1959.	28	22	4	5	32	27

SECTION F.

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948, Part 1 of the Act. (a) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health Including inspections made by Public Health Inspector.)

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	written notices	occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	13	2	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	78 *	24	7 Informal	-
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority +(excluding out-workers' premises).	6	4	-	-
TOTAL	87	30	7 Informal	-

* including farm premises.

+ i.e. Electrical stations (section 103(1)), institutions, (section 104) and sites of building operations and works of engineering construction, (sections 107 and 108).

(b) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Reme- fied.	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
a.insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b.unsuitable or defective	4	5	-	3	-
c.not separate for sexes (S.7.)	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork.)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	8	8	-	3	NIL

Part VIII of the Act.Outwork. Sections 110 and 111.

Nature of Work	Number of outworkers in August list required by section 110(1)(c).	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	Number of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists.	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosec- utions.
Wearing apparel -Making etc.	9	-	-	-	-	-

Health Department,
Brookfield House,
NANTWICH.

August, 1960.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Nantwich Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

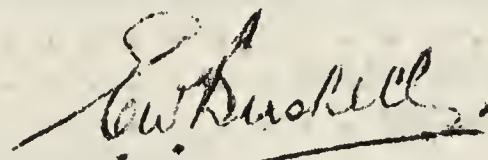
I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1959 and it will be seen that the text follows the well established pattern.

The activities of the department have been consistently maintained in the many varied matters which one has grown to associate with the Health and Housing Departments of a local authority.

The policy of building houses for sale has continued and there appears to be still a demand for such provision. It is unfortunate, however, that the progress in dealing with substandard properties by closure or demolition has been slower than was hoped for at the outset of our programme. We do not have the problem of dense slum areas but there are certain blocks of property which could be well dealt with to provide sites for redevelopment near to the centre of the town. The provision of small units of accommodation in such areas, suitable for older couples or individual pensioners would be appreciated by many who find the distance of the outlying accommodation from the shops an embarrassment.

The continued good will and co-operation between Councillors and fellow officials is appreciated and in particular, the team spirit which continues from year to year in the department.

Yours faithfully,



Chief Public Health Inspector.

I. NUMBER AND NATURE OF VISITS MADE.

Appointment - Owner	1.
- Contractor	2.
Cesspools - Septic Tanks	1.
Courts and Passages	1.
Disinfections	7.
Disinfestations	32.
Drainage	52.
Dustbins	122.
Dwellinghouses - Housing Act	28.
- Public Health Act	23.
Factories - Mechanical	24.
- Manual	2.
- Building Sites	4.
Farms	10.
Food Inspections	39.
Food Poisoning	14.
Food Premises - General	52.
Housing - General	421.
- Improvement Grants	2.
- Individual Unfit Houses	3.
- Rent Act and Revisits	1.
- Visits to Applicants for Council Houses	56.
Ice Cream Registrations	2.
Infectious Diseases - Primary and Secondary	11.
Keeping of Animals	7.
Licensed Premises	50.
Milk Sampling and Registration	12.
Miscellaneous	82.
Moveable Dwellings	12.
Offensive Accumulations	3.
Pail Closets	9.
Reinspections - Public Health and Housing Acts	68.
Rivers, Ditches and Watercourses	31.
Rodent Control	511.
Shops	4.
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspections	632.
Tips	7.
Verminous Premises	3.
Water Sampling	1.

TOTAL	2342.
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Complaints received	54.
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II. NOTICES SERVED.

<u>Public Health Act, 1936.</u>	<u>Served.</u>	<u>Complied.</u>
Informal - General Matters	57	50
- Re Dustbins	127	127

Public Health Act, 1936.Served.Complied.

Formal - Section 39 (drainage)
 - Section 45 (closets)
 - Section 93 (nuisances)
 - Section 56 (paving)

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Housing Act, 1936.

Informal

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-

Formal

-

-

Factories Acts, 1937.

Informal

7

5

Formal

-

-

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Informal

2

2

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Informal

4

3

Municipal Bin Scheme.

Intimations served re dust bins - Private Properties ...

79

- Council Properties ...

48

Bins supplied under scheme

- Annual Charges ... New cases

66

Replacements

7

73

- Council Houses - by General
Stores

48

Compliances include notices served in previous years and cancellations for reissue. Of the notices outstanding at the year end the majority are in hand by Contractors.

III. DEFECTS DEALT WITH IN NOTICES SERVED.

The variety of items dealt with in notices has been maintained and includes dampness, defective plasterwork, floors, window frames, roofs, yard paving, water closet fittings, dustbins, water pipes, drains, gutters, downspouts, etc.

IV. HOUSING.

Site works have continued in connection with Marsh Lane estate and building of permanent houses and flats proceeded steadily. Development of part of this site for houses for sale to tenants also proceeded and has provided a welcome means of house ownership at favourable terms.

Development of the Mount site for private building plots was continued. By the end of the year a further 101 dwellings were provided by the Local Authority, 67 being for sale, and the total of post-war council houses and flats was brought up to 923 including 50 temporary houses. There were no houses and flats under contract by the Urban Council at the end of the year. During the year 7 houses were provided by private enterprise. Tenancies were granted to 51 applicants during the year including the rehousing from unfit houses and 59 new tenancies commenced. A Closing Order was made on one terraced house. Seventeen unfit houses were vacated including sixteen by informal action; eight were demolished in anticipation of formal action and twenty-three on Formal Orders; one closure was effected by Order and seven by informal arrangement.

No applications for Improvement Grants were received. There were two applications for Certificates of Disrepair. It was necessary to issue a certificate in one instance in reference to an application at the end of 1958; in the remaining cases an undertaking was received concerning one house and alternative action resulted in closure of the other. There has been constant attention to the repair and maintenance of the Council Houses and much work has been done through the department in this connection.

V. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases of "notifiable" diseases are visited where necessary as soon as possible after notification.

The number of cases of diseases notified during the year were 10 of Scarlet Fever, 159 of Measles and 7 of Puerperal Pyrexia, 35 Whooping Cough, 1 Meningococcal Infection, 1 Pneumonia and 7 Food Poisoning.

There were three new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year.

Where desirable the disinfection of rooms and bedding was carried out. Such disinfection is always carried out upon removal of Pulmonary Tuberculosis patients. Fumigation is carried out with formaldehyde. Where requested, fumigation and treatment of bedding is carried out following death from Cancer. This practice is appreciated by relatives and has good psychological effect.

The immunisation and vaccination schemes have been operated by the County Council through the Divisional Health Committee. Every opportunity is taken to encourage parents to have children treated. The value of such schemes is reflected in the absence of cases of diphtheria and smallpox during recent years.

VI. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SAMPLES.

The responsibility for administration and control of milk production and licensing of producers of designated milk lies with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the County Council is responsible for control and licensing of pasteurising and sterilising plants. This leaves the District Councils with the control of distributors of milk and licensing of dealers. Sterilised milk is also a recognised official designation,

The Agricultural Executive Committee Milk Testing Advisory Officer takes samples from producers and retailers, but results are not available for quotation. The County Council samples milk at pasteurising and sterilising depots.

The following designated milk samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Birkenhead for examination.

Pasteurised	7
T.T. Pasteurised	3
Sterilised	1

The results were satisfactory in all cases.

There were at the end of the year twenty-four distributors of milk and four dairy premises on the register. The following licences issued by the Local Authority were in force during the year.

Dealers' Licences to use designation	
"Sterilised"	13
Dealers' Licences to use designation	
"Tuberculin Tested"	6
Dealers' Licences to use designation	
"Pasteurised"	11
Supplementary Dealers' Licences to use designation	
"Tuberculin Tested"	10
Supplementary Dealers' Licences to use designation	
"Pasteurised"	10
Supplementary Dealers' Licences to use designation	
"Sterilised"	5

VII. BAKEHOUSES.

There are eight bakehouses on the register and these are visited periodically under the Food and Drugs Act and the Factories Act.

VIII. SHOPS.

There were no complaints in connection with the ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences in the shops which number approximately 200.

IX. FACTORIES.

One firm submitted returns of "outworkers" which contained details of nine persons engaged in the finishing of clothing. The houses of the outworkers are visited occasionally and conditions are noted. There are seventy-eight such factories in which power is used and thirteen in which work is done manually. The standard of accommodation is good and there have been no serious contraventions of the Factories Act and Regulations. There were also six "Factories" at building sites and institutions.

A survey was made of farm premises under the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Regulations) Act, 1956 and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

X. WATER SUPPLY.

Samples are submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination by the Water Board and these have not given cause for serious concern. A detailed summary of such samples is contained in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

XI. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Two trailer caravans and a temporary building were licensed on one site as a dwelling during the year. No nuisance has arisen from the use of these structures.

XII. OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There has been no complaint or cause for action during the year apart from periodic treatment which is carried out at the premises for the control of rats and mice.

XIII. COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no premises of this character in the district.

XIV. CANAL BOATS.

No complaints were received and no inspections were made during the year.

XV. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There was no occasion for formal action during the year. One cannot feel completely satisfied but emissions of industrial smoke have not been such as to justify formal action. The Building Byelaws were amended to require installation of appliances in new dwellings which will be capable of burning smokeless fuel.

Preliminary proposals were submitted to the Minister for the creation of Smoke Control Areas on two new building sites comprising development for approximately 200 and 70 houses respectively. The Minister's views were not available during the year under review.

XVI. SCHOOLS.

No complaints were received as to the general condition of schools. Treatment was necessary at three premises to deal with rodents.

XVII. LICENSED PREMISES.

The department co-operates with the Licensing Magistrates by submission of a report upon sanitary requirements.

There are thirty-one Licensed Premises, including two Clubs, in the district. On the whole the sanitary accommodation is satisfactory but there are houses at which improvements are desirable. The premises are conducted in a clean manner by licencees and there has been no occasion to complain in that respect. One premises was demolished during the year and the licence transferred to the Rural District and it is intended in another instance to close and transfer the licence.

XVIII. VERMIN.

In several instances, advice was given to occupiers to deal with minor infestations with ants and cockroaches, and insecticidal powder was supplied in some cases. Treatment was carried out to deal with ants in nine instances, cockroaches in five and bugs two. Anti-fly treatment was carried out at premises concerned with school meals.

XIX. ERADICATION OF BUGS.

"Killgercide" liquide insecticide, containing D.D.T., is stocked for this purpose.

Where necessary the belongings of selected tenants of Council Houses are treated before moving into the houses. A limited amount of treatment is carried out for tenants of occupied premises, but the owner is held responsible for the treatment of unoccupied premises. Treatment is carried out by direct labour under my supervision.

XX. RODENT CONTROL.

The part-time operative who worked under my supervision in this matter retired on grounds of ill health and it has still not been possible to replace him with a suitable man for regular treatment work. It is necessary to borrow labour for this purpose.

There was no occasion for formal action during the year. The Council tips and sewage works are regularly treated. The systematic treatment of the sewerage system was carried out only on part of the area during the year owing to labour difficulties. The baits used in treatment have been sausage rusk, bread mash, rolled oats and sugar meal and these have been poisoned with zinc phosphide, red squill or arsenic. Warfarin poison in an oatmeal base has also been used successfully. Apart from special visits to premises conditions are observed in the course of visits for other purposes, such as food inspection, factories, shops, etc.

Occupiers of infested premises have the opportunity of themselves dealing with rats and mice or alternatively having the service provided by the Local Authority. In all cases including private dwellings, the costs incurred, plus an establishment charge, are recovered; no fixed contract charges are entertained.

There was no occasion to serve formal notice during the year.

Private annual treatment agreements in force	18
Short term private agreements for treatment in force..	4

Nature of Infestation.

	Rats	Mice	Rats and Mice	Total
Local Authority properties (including sewers and tips)	7	-	-	7
Business Premises	5	5	2	12
Dwellings (including Council houses)	15	6	3	24
Agricultural properties	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	27	11	5	43

Premises treated by Nantwich Urban District Council during the year -

- Council properties	...	...	...	1
- Council Tips	...	...	...	2
- Sewerage System	...	...	...	1
- Business Premises	...	...	...	12
- Dwellings	...	...	...	24

Visits by operative to premises to survey and treatment...	...	...	71
Visits by officer to premises in survey, supervision and treatment	...	...	511
Premises showing no evidence upon survey	...	...	72

Councillors Mrs. N. Killick and G. Harvey and I serve on the Workable Area Committee which has not met during the year.

XXI. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933/54.

There were fifteen Slaughtermen's Licences in force during the year.

XXII. PAIL CLOSETS.

The following is the position at the end of 1959:-

In connection with unfit houses	...	...	...	6	} 17
Beyond reach of sewer - extension impracticable	...	...	...	7	
Suitable for substitution of water closet	...	...	...	2	
Premises where drainage outfall requires investigation	...	...	...	2	
Total known to exist at beginning of 1959	...	...	...	23	
Closets abolished during the year	...	...	...	6	
Total known to exist at end of 1959	...	...	...	17	

Of the 17, the Local Authority carry out weekly collection from 10. Arrangements were made with the R.D.C. to empty the 10 closets at an agreed charge and further reduction in the number is hoped for in 1960.

XXIII. GENERAL SANITATION AND NUISANCES.

Under the Municipal Bin Scheme, 73 bins were supplied in connection with which the annual charge of 5/-d. each is to be made, 7 of these being replacements. The supply to Council houses was derived from a stock held in the Stores Department and 48 bins were supplied from that source. The refuse tips are treated for the control of insect pests and regular treatment for rodent control is carried out. This treatment would be much more effective if supported by better measures of "controlled tipping"; serious consideration should be given to increasing the money and effort allowed for in the estimates each year for refuse disposal. Any improvement since last year has not been appreciable.

XXIV. RIVER POLLUTION.

The Cheshire Rivers Board is now responsible for work in the prevention of and abatement of pollution of rivers.

XXV. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Two private slaughterhouses were licensed and these have accommodated five of the retail butchers; the remaining butchers have obtained supplies "off the hook" from premises in the Rural Area or Crewe. Waste and condemned material is removed from the slaughterhouses at regular and frequent intervals by a private contractor who makes a salvage allowance to the butchers.

There have been no serious difficulties with the two slaughterhouses but at the one used by four butchers there has been congestion at times which has made slaughter and inspection a bit of a problem. The spirit of co-operation from the butchers has continued.

The standard of meat quality has been good as total carcass condemnation has been necessary only concerning one beast; four instances of *Cysticercus Bovis* were found and carcasses were consigned to cold storage.

One slaughterhouse was closed on December 31st upon refusal to renew licence because of low standard; at the other premises extensive alterations were under consideration. These have in fact proceeded in 1960.

The following is a summary of food premises in the district. There are 20 registered under Section 16 of the 1955 Act for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food including 5 fish frying premises; 40 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream. 52 visits to food premises were made in the year apart from 39 visits to examine food stocks.

Butcher.	17.
General Stores (grocery)	51.
Wet Fish, Poultry, etc.	3.
Greengrocery.	8.
Confectioners.	18.
Cafes and Restaurants.	9.
Bakehouses.	8.

These figures do not represent separate premises in every category; for example on the same premises one may find a bakehouse, cafe and confectionery which deals also with a wide range of grocery.

There were 4 informal references under the Food Hygiene Regulations but no formal proceedings were necessary.

There have been continued frequent requests for examination of foodstuff and the following is a statement of goods examined and disposed of in a manner to prevent human consumption. The usual method of disposal is by burying at the refuse tip.

Food examined and found unfit for human consumption.

Fruit Salad.	4 cans.	Oranges.	1 can.
Marmalade.	1 can.	Corned Beef.	8 cans.
Apricots.	22 cans.	Sardines.	4 cans.
Ox Tongue.	15 cans.	Pineapple.	20 cans.
Pears.	10 cans.	Beans.	2 cans.
Peaches.	23 cans.	Jellied Veal.	1 can.
Fish Cakes.	48.	Pilchards.	3 cans.
Tomatoes.	31 cans.	Cherries.	3 cans.
Cream.	1 can.	Chopped Pork.	2 cans.
Rhubarb.	1 can.	Tuna.	1 can.
Syrup.	1 can.	Minced Meat Loaf.	6 cans.
Luncheon Meat.	29 cans.	Ham.	10 cans.
Salmon.	1 can.	Peas.	5 cans.
Tomato Juice.	1 can.	Creamed Rice.	1 can.
Soup.	1 can.	Steak.	1 can.
Brislings.	1 can.	Fish.	1 can.
Evaporated Milk.	37 $\frac{3}{4}$ pints.	Fresh Fish.	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Beef Sausages.	2 lbs.	Imported Lamb.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Pork Sausages.	17 lbs.	Fresh Pork.	718 lbs.
Fresh Beef.	540 lbs.	Fresh Mutton.	90 lbs.

Total estimated weight. 17 cwts. Oqrts. 15 lbs.

In the slaughterhouses one beast carcase was condemned on account of generalised Tuberculosis. Apart from this there were miscellaneous items of offal such as livers, lungs, mesenteries, heads and tongues with localised affection with tuberculosis or parasitic conditions - 4 carcasses were consigned to cold storage - Cysticercus Bovis..

There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the year.

The following animals were slaughtered and examined in the slaughterhouses.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.
Inspected.	384	5	551	2093
Affected with Tuberculosis in carcase or organs.	76 (19.8%)	-	23(4.2%)	-
Affected with other diseases or parasites in organs.	184 (47.9%)	-	56(10.2%)	262(12.5%)

There is no ice-cream made in the area by the "hot mix" method. Most of it is obtained in a prepacked condition from wholesale makers in other districts.

Mr. Howard Hughes, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council, has kindly given the following particulars of samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act during the year.

Cheese (Norwegian, Danish)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.
Cod Fillets, frozen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Flour (Self-Raising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Hake.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Jam (Apricot).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Lemon Curd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Milk	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
Milk (Channel Islands)	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.
Olive Oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Salmon (Potted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Sweets...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Whisky...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32.

Number adulterated or not up to recognised standard - 1 Milk.

1505 Milk 3.3% deficient in milk fat 1.1% No action.
deficient in N.F.S. Sub-Standard
but genuine.

XXVI. SCHOOL CANTEENS & KITCHENS.

Special treatment of the cooking depot was carried out during the main holidays by spraying for the prevention of fly infestation. This is done by arrangement with and at the expense of the Education Committee. The co-operation of the staff of these premises has been helpful. The marked absence of live flies from these premises is an indication of the value of this treatment.

It is anticipated that the Education Authority will in future carry out treatment by fumigation.

ADOPTIVE AND LOCAL ACTS.

IN FORCE IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

	<u>Date of adoption or when same came into force.</u>
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	1st October, 1900.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890: - Parts I and III.. ...	18th July, 1894.
- Part IV.	1st September, 1901.
Public Libraries Act, 1892, 1893, 1901 and (Offences) Act, 1898.. ...	8th August, 1887.
Private Street Works Act, 1892.. ...	26th April, 1895.
Nantwich Urban District Council Act, 1903	21st July, 1903.
Local Government Board's Provisional Orders (Confirmation) Number 7 Act, 1905...	21st August, 1905.
Local Government Board's Provisional Orders (Confirmation) Number 4 Act, 1907...	28th August, 1907.
Local Government Board's Provisional Orders (Confirmation) Number 9 Act, 1912...	7th August, 1912.
Local Government Act, 1894, Section 8, s.s. 1 Power of Parish Council, as to Public Offices, etc.	17th October, 1923.
Local Government Act, 1894, Section 13, s.s. 2 Public Footpaths.. ...	11th July, 1924.
County of Chester Review Order, 1936. ...	1st April, 1936.
Cheshire County Council Act, 1953	1st April, 1954.

